Vide Manwood's Forest Laws Chap. 20, 21, &c

GREAT Depredations and Abuſes having been committed, in lopping, topping, damaging, ſpoiling, and cutting down, and carrying off, without Aſſignment of His Majeſty's Officers, divers Trees, and Trees likely to become Timber Trees, and Quantities of Wood, Underwood, Poles, Young Trees, Sticks of Wood, Green Stubs, Hollies, Thorns, Quickſets, Hedgewood, and Buſhes, which are the Protection and Preſervation of Young Timber, and the Hedges, Stiles, Gates, Poſts, Rails, Ditches, Banks, and Fences of Coppices, Plantations, Woods, and Woody Grounds and Incloſures, contrary to divers Acts of Parliament made for preventing ſuch Abuſes:

Vide Acts

3rd H. 7. c. 6.
15th Eliz. c. 2. & 2.
22 & 23 Eliz. c. 2 & 4.
1st H. 1st Stat. 2, & 22.
6 H. 1. Chap. 16, & 1.
20 H. 2, Chap. 3 & 6
4 H. 3, Chap. 31
6 H. 3, Chap. 36 & 48
7 H. 3, Chap. 41 & 8.
39 H. 3, Chap. 32.

This is to give NOTICE, That every Perſon and Perſons ſo offending, in any of the Caſes aforeſaid, will be proſecuted with the utmoſt Rigour, as the ſeveral Laws now in being require, for every ſuch Offence committed: And the ſeveral Officers and Keepers of His Majeſty's Foreſts, Chaces, Parks, Plantations, and Coppices, and all others concerned, are hereby charged and required to exert themſelves to the utmoſt of their Power to prevent ſuch Abuſes; and, as the Law directs, to ſeize and take away for their own Uſe, any Saw, Axe, Hatchet, Bill, Hook, or other Inſtrument uſed by any Perſon whom they ſhall find unlawfully ſtocking up, ſawing, cutting down, topping, lopping, or deſtroying any Timber Tree, or other Tree, Underwood, or Covert, within ſuch Foreſt; and to apprehend, ſeize, and ſecure all ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo offending, and carry them before ſome of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace (who are impowered and directed to put the Laws in this Reſpect in Execution), to be dealt with according to Law. And, as an Encouragement for the Detection and Conviction of all ſuch Offenders,

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Reward of ONE GUINEA will be paid by His Majeſty's Surveyor General of Woods, &c. (over and beſides a reaſonable Allowance to be made for the Coſts and Charges of Apprehenſion and Conviction, and ſuch Forfeitures and Rewards as the Informers are by Law entitled to) to ſuch Perſon and Perſons as ſhall apprehend, and ſhall proſecute, and ſhall convict any Perſon offending in any of the Caſes aforeſaid, ſo that all ſuch Perſons ſo offending may be

feits a Sum of Money not exceeding Twenty Pounds, together with the Charges previous to and attending ſuch Conviction, to be aſcertained by the Juſtice before whom ſuch Perſon ſhall be convicted; or, on Non-payment thereof, is to be committed by ſuch Juſtice to the Common Gaol, for any Time not exceeding Twelve Months, nor leſs than Six Months, or until the Penalty and Charges ſhall be paid:

FOR THE *SECOND OFFENCE* to forfeit not exceeding Thirty Pounds, together with the Charges as aforeſaid; or on Non-payment, to be committed as aforeſaid, for any Time not exceeding Eighteen Months, nor leſs than Twelve, or until the Penalty and Charges ſhall be paid: And,

FOR A *THIRD OFFENCE*, on Conviction thereof, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall be liable to be tranſported for Seven Years. And all Oak, Beech, Cheſnut, Walnut, Aſh, Elm, Cedar, Fir, Aſp, Lime, Sycamore, and Birch Trees, Poplar, Alder, Larch, Maple, and Hornbeam, are, in ſuch Caſes, enacted to be Timber Trees. And

Every Perſon who ſhall go into the Woods, Wood Grounds, or Underwoods of His Majeſty, or the lawful Owner thereof, and ſhall there cut, lop, top, or ſpoil, ſplit down, or damage, or otherwiſe deſtroy any Kind of Wood, or Underwood, Poles, Sticks of Wood, Green Stubs, or Young Trees, or carry or convey the ſame away, (or ſhall, by Night or Day, cut down, deſtroy, take, carry or convey away any Hollies, Thorns, or Quickſets, growing or being in any of His Majeſty's Foreſts or Chaces, or within the Woods or Wood Grounds of any of his Majeſty's Subjects, or ſhall have in his Cuſtody any Kind of Wood, Underwood, Poles, Sticks of Wood, Green Stubs, or Young Trees, or any ſuch Hollies, Thorns, or Quickſets as aforeſaid, and ſhall not give a ſatisfactory Account how he came by the ſame,) and ſhall be thereof convicted before One Juſtice of the Peace, on the Oath of One Witneſs, for the Firſt Offence forfeits not exceeding Forty Shillings, together with the Charges previous to and attending the Conviction, to be aſcertained by ſuch Juſtice; and if not paid immediately, the Juſtice is to commit him to the Houſe of Correction for One Month, to be kept to hard Labour, and once whipped there.

FOR THE *SECOND OFFENCE* forfeits not exceeding Five Pounds, together with the Charges as aforeſaid; and if not paid immediately, is then to be committed to the Houſe of Correction for Three Months, to

ragement for the Detection and Conviction of all such Offenders,

NOTICE is hereby given, That a Reward of ONE GUINEA will be paid by His Majesty's Surveyor General of Woods, *&c.* (over and besides a reasonable Allowance to be made for the Costs and Charges of Apprehension and Conviction, and such Forfeitures and Rewards as the Informers are by Law entitled to) to such Person and Persons as shall apprehend, and shall prosecute, and shall convict any Person offending in any of the Cases aforesaid, so that all such Persons so offending may be thereby brought to condign Punishment.

And further NOTICE is hereby given, That if any Person shall hinder, or attempt to prevent the seizing or securing any Person or Persons employed in carrying away any such Timber Trees, or other Trees, Limbs, Tops, Lops, Branches, Underwoods, *&c.* such Person forfeits by Law the Sum of Ten Pounds to him who shall convict such Offender thereof, to be paid immediately on Conviction; or, in Failure of Payment thereof, the Person so convicted, to be committed to the House of Correction, to hard Labour, for a Space not exceeding Six Calendar Months: And as a CAUTION, and in order that no Person may unwittingly offend in the Cases aforesaid, without a Knowledge of the Penalties which shall be incurred by the Commission of any such Offences, *NOTICE is hereby further given*,

That every Person who shall, in the NIGHT Time, lop, top, cut down, break, throw down, bark, burn, or otherwise spoil or destroy, or carry away any Oak, Beech, Ash, Elm, Fir, Chesnut, or Asp, Timber Tree, or other Tree standing for Timber, or likely to become Timber, without the Consent of the Owner, or shall be aiding or assisting therein, will be guilty of Felony, and, on Conviction, liable to be transported for Seven Years; or,

If any Person shall maliciously set on fire, or burn, or cause to be burnt, any Wood, Underwood, or Coppice, or any Part thereof, he is also guilty of Felony; or

If any Person shall wilfully cut or break down, bark, burn, pluck up, lop, top, crop, or otherwise deface, damage, spoil, or destroy, or carry away any Timber Tree or Trees, or Trees likely to become Timber, or any Part thereof, or the Lops or Tops thereof, without the Consent of the Owner (or in any of His Majesty's Forests or Chaces, without the Consent of His Majesty's Surveyor, or his Deputy, or Persons entrusted with the Care thereof), and shall be thereof convicted on the Oath of One Witness, before One Justice, every Person so offending, for the First Offence, forthe Peace, on the Oath of One Witness, for the First Offence forfeits not exceeding Forty Shillings, together with the Charges previous to and attending the Conviction, to be ascertained by such Justice; and if not paid immediately, the Justice is to commit him to the House of Correction for One Month, to be kept to hard Labour, and once whipped there.

FOR THE *SECOND OFFENCE* forfeits not exceeding Five Pounds, together with the Charges as aforesaid; and if not paid immediately, is then to be committed to the House of Correction for Three Months, to be kept to hard Labour, and whipped there once in every of the said Months: And

If any Person shall commit any of the Offences aforesaid a Third Time, being duly convicted thereof according to Law, he is deemed to be an incorrigible Rogue, and punished as such; that is, he may be committed to the House of Correction for any Time not exceeding Two Years, but not less than Six Months, to be kept to hard Labour, and whipt in such Manner, and at such Times and Places, as the Justices shall think fit.

If any Person, either by Day or by Night, shall wrongfully or maliciously, without the Consent of the Owner, or Person chiefly intrusted with the Care thereof, cut down, break, or destroy, or break open, throw down, or level any Hedges, Gates, Stiles, Posts, Rails, Ditches, Banks, and Fences of any Coppices, Plantations, Woods, and Woody Grounds and Inclosures, and shall be thereof convicted, every such Offender is liable to be committed to the House of Correction to hard Labour for Three Months, or where no House of Correction, to the Prison for Four Months, and to be publickly whipped once a Month, during such Confinement, in a Borough or Market-Town, on a Market-Day, between the Hours of Eleven and Two; and, before discharged, to find sufficient Sureties for good Behaviour for Two Years.

And if any Person or Persons shall take and carry away any Tree cut down and severed from the Ground, or any Part thereof, or the Lops, Tops, or Branches thereof, or any Wood or Underwood cut and severed from the Ground, or any Bark which shall have been taken therefrom, without the Consent of the Owner (or in any of His Majesty's Forests and Chaces, without the Consent of His Majesty's Surveyor, or his Deputy, or the Persons entrusted with the Care thereof), and shall be thereof convicted, every Person so offending is guilty of Felony, and liable to be punished as a Felon.

JOHN ROBINSON,
Surveyor General of His Majesty's Woods, &c. &c.

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